



2177

PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 09/998,037
Applicant : Ashwani Garg
Filed : November 29, 2001
TC/A.U. : 2177
Examiner : Pannala, Sathyanaraya R.

Confirmation No.: 6073

Docket No. : 42390.P12326
Customer No. : 08791

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MAY 24 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Technology Center 2100

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed on April 16, 2004, with the one-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on May 17, 2004, kindly reconsider the Application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Applicant hereby elects Group I, claims 1-8 and 23-30 for examination.

Applicant's election is made with traverse. The requirement should be withdrawn since M.P.E.P. § 803 states that if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even if it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions. That directive should be followed in this case. All the claims in this case are related to an identifier for use in a distributed application having a plurality of application copies, including identifying a plurality of information items associated with a computer application to generate one or more

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Reply to Office Action of April 16, 2004

identifiers, and distributing a plurality of information items to a distributed application having a plurality of computer application copies using the identifiers. Consequently, all the claims in this case can be searched and examined together without serious burden.

Allowance of the application is respectfully solicited.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 724-933-3387 to discuss any matter concerning this application.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP



John F. Kacvinsky, Reg. No. 40,040
Under 37 CFR 1.34(a)

Dated: 5/17/04

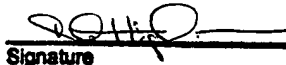
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